

## LETTERS

### Dear Editor:

When I saw that SMART [Simulation and Modeling for Acquisition, Requirements and Training] was the theme of the May-June 2001 issue of *Army AL&T*, I couldn't wait to read through it. I've worked for 33 years for an Army organization that specializes in systems analysis and, thus, modeling and simulation [M&S]. However, I found that only the areas of acquisition and technology were addressed. The word "logistics" appeared only a couple of times in the entire issue. I work in the area of logistics analysis and know firsthand how important logistics M&S is throughout the life cycle of military systems, so you can imagine how disappointed I was. M&S should be a key component in determining a system's maintenance concept, whether or not to use contractor logistics support, identifying the least-cost mix of spares, and helping to make trade-off decisions between the user's readiness requirements and life-cycle costs. Even the article on OT&E [operational test and evaluation] (Page 26) missed a key point on logistics modeling: you can test a lot of things in OT, but you can't test the adequacy of provisioning. What you can do is model it and, thus, evaluate it!

I think this issue makes a strong case that, although an "L" was added to the office title, the importance of logistics remains a mystery to much of the acquisition community. A golden opportunity was missed with this issue of *Army AL&T*.

Sincerely,  
Dick McGauley  
Operations Research Analyst  
Logistics Analysis Division  
Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity

### Dear Editor:

I note with irony Truelove and Donlin's SMART article in *Army AL&T*'s May-June 2001 issue, which states, "The new name encompasses the need for collaboration among all those in the three Army M&S domains," and earlier, "... SBA [simulation based acquisition] is not just about systems development, but also about the Army's overall modernization process." And yet there is not a single SMART ACR [advanced concepts and requirements] or SMART TEMO [training, exercises, and military operations] article in the entire issue. Nor is there any recognition of anything but the "M" in DTLOMS [doctrine, training, leader development, organization, materiel and soldier]. As long as

SMART is perceived to be a materiel developer-centered program, the combat developer community will view the program to be Directed Utilization of Models for a Materiel Bureaucracy (DUMMB).

Let's have some "smart" success stories and "smart" reporting on the use of SMART for us folks in the ACR and TEMO M&S domains. Surely there must be a few smart SMART efforts in the Joint M&S arena—JMASS [joint modeling and simulation system], JSIMS [joint simulation system] and JWARS [joint warfare system]. We need to SMARTen up!

Richard M. Berg  
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Division  
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### Author Response:

While my coauthor, Mike Truelove, and I can't speak for the articles submitted or selected for the May-June issue of the magazine (nor for Mr. Berg's "creative" use of acronyms), Mr. Berg does raise a very perceptive issue. In fact, his underlying point is the very reason the sponsorship for SMART was transferred to the AMSEC [Army Model and Simulation Executive Council] co-chairs. As the article states, the transfer was initiated to counter the perception that while being managed from within the RDA domain, the SMART concept would always be viewed as acquisition-centric. Apparently, we haven't been too successful in counter-ing this perception.

We would ask for everyone's assistance in this regard. One of the tasks in the SMART Execution Plan is to compile lessons learned and best business practices with the use of SMART. We would ask anyone with input to provide it to us. We can be reached easily through the AMSO [Army Model and Simulation Office] Web page at <http://www.amsso.army.mil>. A lot of people, in places like the Army Space and Missile Defense Command, are doing great work through the collaborative use of M&S, and we want to hear about it. We would also like to encourage those in the ACR and TEMO domains with success stories to submit them for publication.

Bruce J. Donlin  
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### IN MEMORY

The *Army AL&T* staff was saddened to learn of the recent death of George J. Makuta, a former Associate Editor of this magazine (then known as *Army RD&A*). He retired in 1983 following 30 years of dedicated federal service. During his more than 22 years with the magazine, Mr. Makuta consistently earned high praise from the Army's printing, publications, and research and development communities for his outstanding journalistic, layout, and design skills. He is survived by his wife Delores, three children, and six grandchildren.